(b) The amount disbursed so far towards claims for Kharif 1987, Statewise is as follows:—

Assam	— Rs.	0.90 lakhs
Bihar	— Rs.	386.72 ,,
Kerala	— Rs.	10.44 ,,
Uttar Pradesh	— Rs.	299.50 ,,
West Bengal	— Rs.	195.70 ,,
	Rs.	893.26 ,,

Second Channel of Doordarshan

*148. SHRI T. R. BALU:
SHRI V. GOPALSAMY:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) The names of Doordarshan Kendras in the country presently having second channel;

(b) the dates on which the second channel was started;

(c) the number of Doordarshan Kendras where second channel is likely to be started during the current plan period;

(d) how many State Governments have demanded second channel for regional programmes and implementation of State policies; and

(e) what are the details of their demands and steps taken therefore?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT): (a) to (e) The Second Channel service has been introduced from Doordarshan Kendras at Delhi, Bombay, Calcutta and Madras with effect from the date indicated against each:—

Delhi—17-9-1984
Bombay—1-5-1985
Calcutta—19-11-1987
Madras—1-7-1988

There is no scheme in the Seventh Plan of Doordarshan to introduce second channel TV service from any other centre.

Requests have been received from time to time from the State Governments of Sikkim, Tripura, Assam, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Kerala and West Bengal for seting up of second channel TV service of Doordarshan to be used exclusively by the State Governments. However, the operation and maintenance of broadcasting network in the country is a responsibility assigned under the Constitution to the Central Government. The Government is, therefore, firmly of the view that this position needs to be maintained as the provision was so incorporated by the framers of the Constitution in their wisdom.

Survey conducted by the Mineral Exploration Corporation

*152. SHRI K. V. THANGKABALU: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Mineral Exploration Corporation had undertaken drilling/mining survey works in some States during the last three years;

(b) if so, the names of such States; and

(c) whether any such survey was undertaken by the Corporation in Tamil Nadu during the last three years, if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI MAKHAN LAL FOTEDAR): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. Mineral Exploration Corporation Limited (MECL) has undertaken Drilling/Mining and survey work for various minerals during the last three years in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Haryana, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal.

(c) On behalf of Neyveli Lignite Corporation MECL has been conducting detailed exploration in Tamil Nadu for Lignite in Neyveli Mines Blocks I, II and III as also in South Vellar, Behur basin and

Jayamkondam Blocks in South Arcot district through exploratory drilling, borehole geophysics and matching geological and analytical work. MECL has so far established 3078 million tonnes of Lignite with calorific values between 794 and 3269 at Neyveli. Further work is continuing.

Threat of locust invasion

*153 SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have been warned by the Emergency Centre for Locust Operations of UN Food and Agriculture Organisation that India faces threat of locust invasion; and

(b) if so, what measures are being taken to combat the locust swarms?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BHAJAN LAL): (a) The Government of India has been advised that the possibility of locust groups reaching India from the west cannot be ruled out.

(b) (i) Regular interaction is being maintained between the Locust Control Organisations of India, Pakistan and the FAO;

(ii) Constant vigilance is being kept on locust activity in the Scheduled Desert Area;

(iii) Locust Warning Organisation has been geared up with mobilisation of man-power, vehicles, equipment, pesticides etc.;

(iv) A detailed contingency plan has been drawn up for the deployment of men and material at strategic locations to tackle any emergent situation; and

(v) The State Governments of Gujarat, Haryana, Punjab and Rajasthan have been alerted.

ग्रामीण स्वच्छता कार्यक्रम के लिए उत्तर प्रदेश को धनराशियां

*154. **श्री सत्य प्रकाश मालवीय :** क्या कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) गत तीन वर्षों के दौरान केन्द्र द्वारा प्रायोजित ग्रामीण स्वच्छता कार्यक्रम के अधीन उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार को कितनी धनराशि स्वीकृत की गई ; और

(ख) उन परियोजनाओं का ब्यौरा क्या है जिन पर ये धनराशियां खर्च की गयी थीं ?

कृषि मंत्रालय में ग्रामीण विकास विभाग में राज्य मंत्री (श्री जनार्दन पुजारी) : (क) वर्ष 1986 में पहली बार केन्द्र द्वारा प्रायोजित ग्रामीण स्वच्छता कार्यक्रम शुरू किया *गया था और पहली राशि नवम्बर, 1986* में रिलीज की गई थी । राज्य सरकार को वर्ष 1986–87 और 1987–88 में क्रमश: 67 लाख रुपये और 25 लाख रुपये की राशि रिलीज की गई थी ।

(ख) राज्य सरकार ने सूचित किया है कि 2625 शौचालयों के निर्माण की परियोजना राज्य के सभी 57 जिलों में कार्यान्वित की गई थी जिनमें से 23 लाख रुपये की लागत से अभी तक 2200 शौचालयों का निर्माण कार्य पूरा हो चुका है ।

Newsprint allocation policy

*156. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) what is the newsprint allocation policy of Government; and

(b) what are the guidelines to decide the allotment of newsprint?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT): (a) and (b) The Newsprint Allocation Policy of the Government envisages meeting the genuine requirements of the newspapers with special consideration for the needs of the small and medium newspapers. The policy is essentially need based and the total requirements of the newspapers are worked out on actual con-